

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-09 AGR-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10
NSAE-00 ICA-11 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 /120 W
-----036405 012121Z /13
R 012004Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5593

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 24139

USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN OECD
SUBJECT: POSITIVE ADJUSTMENT POLICIES

FEF: PARIS 23130; STATE 189995

1. AS FOLLOW UP TO JULY 21 COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF
ORGANIZATION'S WORK PROGRAM IN POSITIVE ADJUSTMENT
AREA (REFTEL), SECRETARIAT HAS SENT LETTER TO HEADS
OF DELS ELABORATING ITS THINKING PROPOSING
MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP OF GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES
FOR NOVEMBER 14-15. DELS ARE ASKED TO PROVIDE
SECRETARIAT WITH NAMES OF REPRESENTATIVES, PROPOSALS
THEY MAY HAVE CONCERNING THE AGENDA, AND COMMENTS/
UPDATING CONCERNING RELEVANT PORTION OF CE(78)8
ANNEX. LATTER DOCUMENT, WHICH IS SET OF NOTES ON
POLICY EXPERIENCE IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, IS
PROPOSED AS POSSIBLE BACKGROUND FOR NOVEMBER
DISCUSSIONS. FULL TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT.
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IN HIS NOTE TO THE COUNCIL (C(78)129, 1ST REVISION),
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL PROPOSED A TWO-PRONGED APPROACH
TO FOLLOW UP THE ORIENTATIONS FOR MORE POSITIVE
ADJUSTMENT POLICIES ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL AT
MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

FIRST THE INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE, MANPOWER AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL POLICY COMMITTEES WILL BE ASKED TO ASSESS THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE VARIOUS ADJUSTMENT MEASURES APPLIED IN MEMBER COUNTRIES AND TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS FOR A PROGRESSIVE SHIFT TO MORE POSITIVE ADJUSTMENT POLICIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GENERAL ORIENTATIONS. YOU WILL SHORTLY RECEIVE LETTERS CONCERNING THESE MATTERS.

SECOND, IT WAS AGREED THAT SOME OF THE BROADER QUESTIONS INVOLVED IN A SHIFT TO MORE POSITIVE ADJUSTMENT POLICIES SHOULD BE EXAMINED AT ONE OR MORE MEETINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE AD HOC MEETINGS AT WHICH THE ORIENTATIONS WERE PREPARED FOR THE COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE ISSUES WHICH DESERVE FURTHER ATTENTION MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- THE ROLE OF SELECTIVE AS OPPOSED TO MORE GENERAL MEASURES (ORIENTATIONS (ANNEX II TO C(78)96 (FINAL), PARAGRAPH 7);

- HOW TO ENSURE THAT SELECTIVE ACTION IS GENUINELY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TEMPORARY (ORIENTATIONS, PARAGRAPH 8 (I) AND (II));

- HOW TO MEASURE THE COSTS AND BENEFITS OF SUCH ACTION AND ENSURE THAT THESE ARE TAKEN PROPERLY INTO ACCOUNT (ORIENTATIONS, PARAGRAPH 8 (III)).

THIS LIST IS NOT INTENDED TO BE EXHAUSTIVE AND THE SECRETARIAT WOULD WELCOME SUGGESTIONS AS TO WHICH QUESTIONS MEMBER COUNTRIES CONSIDER OF PRIORITY INTEREST.

IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THESE GENERAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN IMPLEMENTING THE ORIENTATIONS AGREED BY MINISTERS SHOULD BE EXAMINED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CONCRETE EXPERIENCE OF, AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES PREVAILING IN, INDIVIDUAL MEMBER COUNTRIES. IT IS

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PROPOSED THAT THE COUNTRY NOTES CONTAINED IN THE ANNEX TO CE(78)8 COULD SERVE AS A USEFUL STARTING POINT FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE MANPOWER AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE ARE BEING ASKED TO UPDATE THE INVENTORIES OF POLICY MEASURES AND INSTRUMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN LARGELY RELIED UPON TO PRODUCE THAT ANNEX. IT WOULD, HOWEVER, ALSO BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF, FOR THOSE COUNTRIES COVERED IN THE ANNEX TO CE(78)8, YOUR REPRESENTATIVE COULD PROVIDE THE SECRETARIAT, AHEAD OF THE MEETING, WITH COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION CONCERNING THE GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THEIR POLICIES.

AT THE FIRST MEETING, THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL ALSO BE INFORMED OF THE FOLLOW UP ACTION BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES OF THE ORGANIZATION, WITH A VIEW TO ENSURING APPROPRIATE COORDINATION OF THE WORK UNDER WAY.

IT WAS INITIALLY ENVISAGED TO HOLD THE FIRST MEETING
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IN OCTOBER. SOME DELEGATIONS HAVE SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE ATTENDANCE OF SENIOR

OFFICIALS, IT MIGHT BE PREFERABLE TO MEET IMMEDIATELY
BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE EPC. WE THEREFORE PROPOSE
TO HOLD THE MEETING ON 14TH AND 15TH NOVEMBER.

COULD YOU PLEASE LET THE SECRETARIAT KNOW THE NAMES OF
YOUR REPRESENTATIVES, TOGETHER WITH ANY PROPOSALS THAT
THEY MAY HAVE CONCERNING THE AGENDA.
END TEXT

2. MISSION COMMENT: PER STATE 189995 AND VARIOUS TEL-
CONS, WE URGED SECRETARIAT TO SCHEDULE EXPERTS' MEETING
EARLIER THAN INDICATED IN SECRETARIAT LETTER ABOVE,
PREFERABLY WEEK OF OCTOBER 23. FOR REASONS NOTED
ABOVE AND DESIRE TO ASSURE ADEQUATE DOCUMENTATION FOR
MEETING, SECRETARIAT FELT LATTER DATES PREFERABLE.
GIVEN STRONG U.S. ROLE IN DEVELOPING POSITIVE ADJUST-
MENT ORIENTATIONS APPROVED BY OECD MINISTERIAL, MISSION
BELIEVES EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO CONTINUE HIGH
LEVEL U.S. REPRESENTATION AT ABOVE MEETING IN NOVEMBER.
KATZ

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